



# *Proclamation*

## *Presented to*

### **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

**WHEREAS**, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration ('NOAA') is a national agency with roots dating to 1807 that is dedicated to informing citizens about the changing environment around them; and

**WHEREAS**, the United Nations Environment Programme ('UNEP') is the voice for the environment in the United Nations system and encourages partnership in caring for the environment and improving peoples' quality of life without that of future generations; and

**WHEREAS**, NOAA has joined with UNEP to organize the Fifth International Marine Debris Conference, which will take place in Honolulu from March 20 – 25, 2011; and

**WHEREAS**, the increasing amount of pollution and debris in our oceans and seas has been recognized by both organizations as well as numerous scientific bodies as deleterious to our marine ecosystems and ultimately detrimental to our own well-being and quality of life; and

**WHEREAS**, this event is the first of its kind to take place in over a decade and is intended to raise public awareness, forge new partnerships, and inspire action to bring about a world free of the impacts of marine debris;

**THEREFORE I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE**, Governor, and **I, BRIAN SCHATZ**, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim March 20-26, 2011 as

### **"MARINE DEBRIS AWARENESS WEEK"**

in Hawai'i, to raise public awareness about this important issue and to encourage further research as well as individual actions to reduce waste that pollutes our oceans.

**DONE** at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this twenty-second day of February 2011.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
Governor, State of Hawai'i

BRIAN SCHATZ  
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i

